

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 192557

21

ORIGIN OPIC-06

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DRAFTED BY OPIC/F BBROWNE
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R 040035Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF KTDC OFFICIAL

REF: NAIROBI 7018

1. W. A. MUTSUNE, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, KENYA TOURIST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, VISITED OPIC JULY 20. ON SUBJECT OF HOLIDAY INNS PROJECT, MUTSUNE TERMED IT SUSPENDED, BUT NOT ABANDONED. WHILE HE THOUGHT PROJECT WAS GOOD IDEA IN PRINCIPLE, PLANNING NEVER GOT OFF GROUND AND INVESTORS FAILED TO AGREE ON MATTERS OF PROPER ROOM RATES, RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERRUNS AND KTDC ROLE IN PLANNING OF LOCAL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION. IN FUTURE, KTDC SEEKS BOTH TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN PLANNING OF LOCAL DETAILS, AND TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH INVESTORS AND OPIC, NOT THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES.

2. MONEY FOR PROJECT HAS BEEN REALLOCATED IN KTDC BUDGET. FUNDS CAN BE OBTAINED AGAIN FUTURE SINCE PROJECT REMAINS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 192557

DEVELOPMENT PLAN. PROJECT IS SHELVED UNTIL KTDC RECEIVES

NEW AND DIRECT EQUITY INVESTMENT OVERTURES FROM HI. MUTSUNE SAID HE HAD NO PLANS TO VISIT HI OFFICIAL MICHAEL ROSE IN MEMPHIS DURING HIS U.S. TRIP.

3. COMMENT: PURPOSE OF VISIT SEEMED TO PRESENT KTDC SIDE OF STORY TO OPIC, NOT REPEAT NOT REKINDLE OPIC INTEREST IN PROJECT. OPIC ADVISED MUTSUNE NOT EXPECT ACTION FROM HI WITHOUT SOME OTHER GROUP TAKING LEAD IN RESTRUCTURING PROJECT. HIS LACK OF INTEREST IN VISITING ROSE CONTRADICTS WHAT HE TOLD EMBASSY AND EVIDENTLY REFLECTS LOW PRIORITY OF HI PROJECT. ALSO PRESENTED BY MUTSUNE DURING MEETING WERE TWO NEW PROJECT IDEAS, BOTH OF WHICH ONLY OF MODEST INTEREST TO OPIC. DECLASSIFY AUGUST 2, 1977. KISSINGER

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